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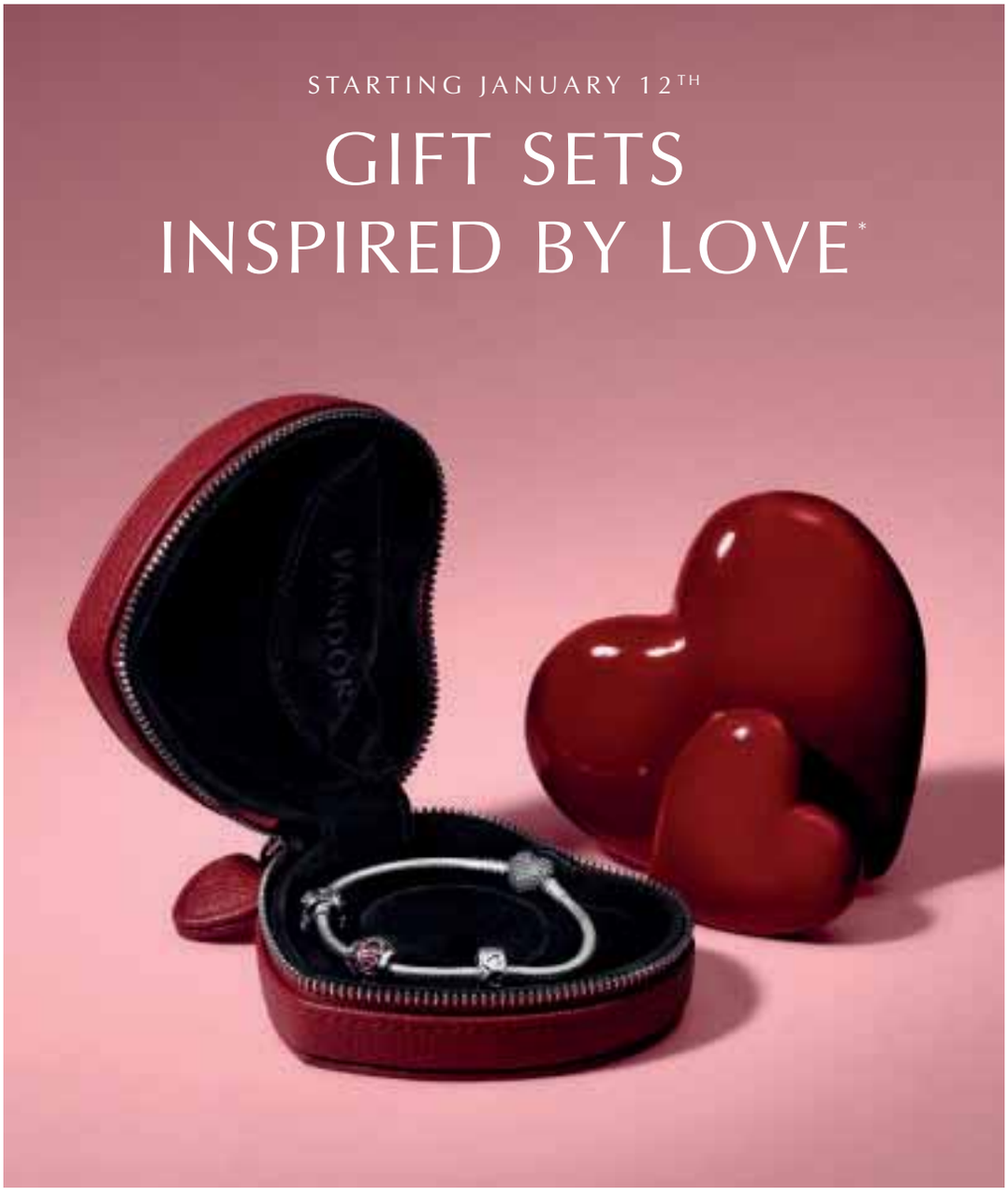

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GRAMMY FASHION

Red-carpet hitmakers are detail-oriented. 30

The 'do-over' is overdone in Trump's America. 4

Tebow still clawing for baseball shot. 36

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RIGGED?

An inside look at how easy (and difficult) it is to fix pro sports games in America. 35

GETTY IMAGES

WHITE HOUSE OFFICIAL ATTACKS COURT

1 A White House official attacked a U.S. court ruling that blocked President Donald Trump's executive order on immigration as a "judicial usurpation of power" and said the administration was considering a range of options, including a new order. Sustained criticism of the judiciary from the White House comes amid concern among Democrats and legal scholars over Trump's view of the constitutional principle of judicial independence as the administration seeks to overcome legal setbacks to its travel ban issued on Jan. 27. It has also become the backdrop against which U.S. senators consider Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Judge Neil Gorsuch, for a lifetime appointment to the nation's highest court. REUTERS

MEXICANS VENT OVER TRUMP, OWN PRESIDENT

2 Thousands of protesters in more than a dozen Mexican cities took to the streets on Sunday to express their fierce opposition to U.S. President Donald Trump, portraying the new leader as a menace to both America and Mexico. Waving Mexicans flags and hoisting anti-Trump signs in both Spanish and English, some vulgar, many protesters also heaped scorn on their own president, deriding Enrique Pena Nieto as a weak leader who has presided over rampant corruption and violence at home. Trump and Pena Nieto have been locked in battle over their countries' deep ties for months, even before Trump won the presidency with promises to get tougher on immigration and trade from Mexico. Mexico fears Trump's policies could send Latin America's second biggest economy into crisis. REUTERS

STEINMEIER ELECTED GERMAN PRESIDENT

3 Former foreign minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier was elected Germany's president on Sunday, the 12th person to hold the largely ceremonial post in the post-war era. Steinmeier, a Social Democrat who had served as foreign minister until last month, won 931 of the 1,239 valid votes by lawmakers and representatives of Germany's 16 federal states. There 103 abstentions and 14 votes were invalid. After Bundestag president Norbert Lammert announced the results, all representatives held a standing ovation except for a few dozen members of the populist Alternative for Germany (AfD) party. REUTERS

KNICKS EDGE SPURS

5 Willy Hernangomez of the New York Knicks shoots the ball against the San Antonio Spurs on Sunday at Madison Square Garden. The Knicks won the game, 94-90. GETTY IMAGES

JAZZ AND R&B SINGER AL JARREAU DIES AT 76

4 Jazz and R&B singer Al Jarreau, whose hits included "We're in This Love Together" and "Moonlighting," died on Sunday in Los Angeles at age 76. His Facebook page said Jarreau "passed away this morning, at about 6 a.m. LA time. He was in the hospital, kept comfortable by his wife, son, and a few of his family and friends." No cause of death was given. The seven-time Grammy winner had been hospitalized for exhaustion last week and was forced to cancel his remaining tour dates for 2017. Jarreau was considered one of jazz's greatest vocalists, with a mastery of scat singing and vocal percussion. REUTERS

WELCOME TO METRO.US!

RACHEL RACZKA, NATIONAL MUSIC EDITOR

Though you might have been on pins and needles about who would capture the Grammy for the Best New Age Album, everyone else was electrified by the competition between Beyonce and Adele, who faced off for the Album, Record and Song of the Year. And if you happened to have missed the star-studded event, you can find assorted Grammy items and such gems as a slideshow of the worst-dressed celebrities at **Metro.us**.

PLAY TO WIN $100!

Every Monday, we pick a random winner from the participants who answered correctly one of the quizzes from the previous week. Congrats to last week's winner, **Christine Kusser, Quincy, MA.**

metro.us/quiz

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TRUMP'S AMERICA

IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED

President Trump and Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe hit the links Saturday in Florida. GETTY IMAGES

ELLIS HENICAN

Opinion

Ellis Henican is a seasoned observer of the nation's political and social landscape. He has appeared as a commentator on CNN, MSNBC and Fox News. He is a former columnist at Newsday. Follow him @henican

In government as in golf, it's never too soon for a mulligan.

I can't report how many do-overs Donald Trump took on the links in Palm Beach, Florida, with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Mar-a-Lago security men taped black plastic over the windows to block the news media's view. But this much is clear for anyone to see: An ever-growing roster of Trump slogans and promises is now being speed-edited by reality.

The most glaring one: White House staffers are frantically redrafting the botched Muslim ban blocked by a three-judge panel of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The "brand new order" could be ready as early as today. But that's just a warm-up.

The big question going forward is who or what Trump's next mulligan will be. The "repeal and replace" of Obamacare, now sounding more and more like a rebrand? The president's impetuous Two Chinas policy, hardly mentioned since one chummy postelection phone call with the president of Taiwan? Is one of these the next oh-never-mind?

Could it be the truth-challenged national security adviser, Gen. Michael Flynn, who first insisted he didn't talk sanctions with the Russian ambassador — and now pleads selective memory loss? Is Gen. Flynn tomorrow's mulligan?

When it comes to necessary redos, there are so many ripe possibilities. The increasingly pricey border wall, which Mexico still won't pay for? The claim that 3 million "illegals" voted in an election that Donald Trump won. Any evidence yet? The sweeping crackdown on illegal immigration that will apply to — wait, who will it apply to? Anyone here without papers? Only serious criminals? Muslims from some nations or from many?

Everything is open to reinterpretation except for this: When you have a president who speaks by tweet and governs by gut emotion, no view is forever and no decision can't be undone.

It was fascinating, I thought, to watch the reaction when North Korea leader Kim Jong Un sent a special bread-and-butter gift to Trump and Abe's golf-and-get-to-know-you weekend — a mid-range ballistic missile into the Sea of Japan. "It won't happen" gave way immediately to the mildest platitude: "The United States of America stands behind Japan, its great ally, 100 percent, thank you."

Anyone ready to call another mulligan?

DO YOU AGREE?

Tell us what you think!

@MetroNewYork

Trump says he will bring down the price of wall on Mexico's border

"I am reading that the great border wall will cost more than the government originally thought, but I have not gotten involved in the ... design or negotiations yet."
President Donald Trump

President Donald Trump GETTY IMAGES

President Donald Trump is pushing back on assertions that the wall he wants built on the border with Mexico would cost more than anticipated and said he would reduce the price.

Trump made his comments in two Twitter posts but did not say how he would bring down the cost of the wall.

Reuters on Thursday published details of an internal report by the Department of Homeland Security that estimated the price of a wall along the entire border at $21.6 billion. During his presidential campaign, Trump cited a $12 billion figure. "I am reading that the great border WALL will cost more than the government originally thought, but I have not gotten involved in the ... design or negotiations yet," Trump tweeted from his Florida resort, where he is hosting Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

"When I do, just like with the F-35 FighterJet or the Air Force One Program, price will come WAY DOWN!"

Trump said in late January that his administration had been able to cut some $600 million from a deal to buy about 90 F-35 Joint Strike Fighters from Lockheed Martin. Defense analysts and sources downplayed news of those cuts, saying the discount hailed by Trump was in line with what had been flagged by Lockheed for months and would apply to other countries committed to the program.

A border wall to stem illegal immigration was one of Trump's main campaign promises. He has vowed to make Mexico reimburse the United States for its cost but Mexico has repeatedly said it will not do so.

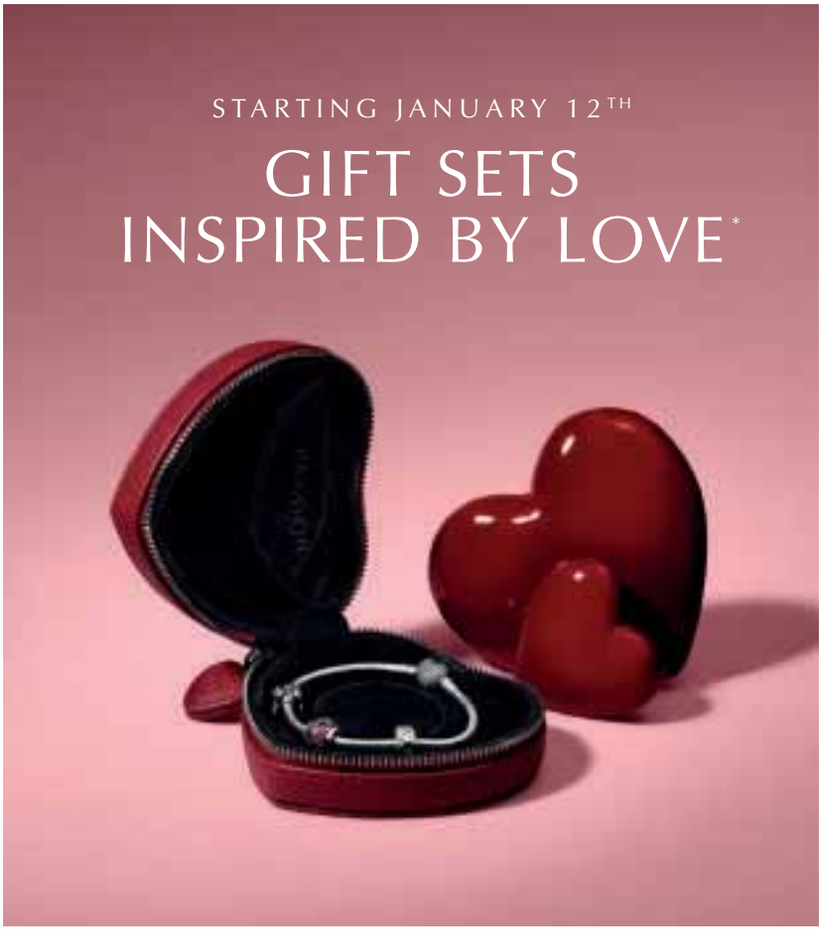
Trump also tweeted on Saturday about another aspect of his immigration policy - the legal battle over the presidential order banning entry to the United States by refugees and citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries.

"Our legal system is broken! '77% of refugees allowed into U.S. since travel reprieve hail from seven suspect countries.' (WT) SO DANGEROUS!" he said.

The tweet was in apparent reaction to a Washington Times story saying 77 percent of the 1,100 refugees who have entered the United States since Feb. 3 are from the countries covered by Trump's ban.

A federal judge in Seattle blocked Trump's executive order on Feb. 3, lifting the ban while litigation proceeds. Trump has been steadily critical of the ruling from Seattle and a subsequent appeals court ruling upholding it.

REUTERS



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Hardcore punker starts fundraiser for mentor's medical expenses

A founding member of '80s hardcore band the Cro-Mags is raising cash to help Dr. Know.

DOMINIC BELL
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

CREDIT: FERNANDO GODOY(L). JEFF PLISKIN / RAISED FIST PROPAGANDA(R)

Harley Flanagan, the godfather of New York hardcore, still gets goosebumps when he recalls being introduced to the Bad Brains and guitarist Gary "Dr. Know" Miller when he was just a preteen punk rocker.

"The first time I saw the Bad Brains was in 1979," Flanagan recalled. "I was 12 and playing drums for the Stimulators. It was on St. Marks Place — at what used to be the Fillmore East — and they blew my mind. I had never seen anything like them. They were so explosive."

Today, with a relationship that has spanned over four decades, Flanagan's friend and mentor needs help.

Dr. Know is still recovering from near-fatal cardiac arrest in 2015 in which he suffered multiple organ failure and was on life support. He has no medical insurance and faces rising medical expenses.

In true-friend fashion, Flanagan is offering his time and music to fans of the punk rock pioneer through a recently launched fundraising site.

"I've known Doc since I was about 12," said the 49-year-old hardcore punk and metal bass player. "He's met my grandmother, my mother. He's like family to me, and I wanted to do something to help."

> *"It's something I wanted to do for a long time."*
> Harley Flanagan

Flanagan, one of the founding members of legendary '80s hardcore band the Cro-Mags, has a new band, Hard Core, and is launching a European tour in May. He's using his first single, "With Friends Like You," a two-minute barrage of meticulous metal mayhem that Flanagan fans will quickly appreciate, as a fundraising source to help Dr. Know. Flanagan, who stays in contact with the Bad Brains, says 48 percent of all profits will go to Miller and his family.

"I spoke to Doc just the other day," he said. "It was hard to hear him say that he has no feeling in his left hand. It's good to know he's doing a lot better, but he has a long road ahead of him. He's not playing [guitar] yet, and that really sucks."

Flanagan has a lot going on these days. He recently collaborated with musician Chris Clemence to record "Let's Go," a rock anthem that can be heard during Rangers games at Madison Square Garden. It was also played during Super Bowl LI.

And his PledgeMusic website has more than just music being offered. In exchange for fans' generosity, everything from signed EPs and posters to a private reading of his recently released memoir "Hardcore: Life of My Own" are for the taking. He's also offering private jiujitsu lessons (Flanagan is a black belt in Brazilian jiujitsu under Renzo Gracie).

"It's something I wanted to do for a long time," said Flanagan, who is also currently working with rap legend Melle Mel on several new tracks. "And now I have something to offer."

A full interview with Flanagan is available on Metro.us.

Museum closes Shia LeBeouf's anti-Trump performance art installation

After three weeks that were as tumultuous as Donald Trump's presidency has been thus far, Shia LeBeouf's anti-Trump art installation in New York is no more.

The Museum of the Moving Image in Queens, which agreed to house the interactive and streaming installation "He Will Not Divide Us" for the next four years or "duration of the presidency," on Friday announced it was shuttering the piece.

"The installation created a serious and ongoing public safety hazard for the Museum, its visitors, staff, local residents, and businesses," a statement said. "The installation had become a flash point for violence and was disrupted from its original intent."

"He Will Not Divide Us" was unveiled on Inauguration Day, just before Trump was sworn in as president. Participants were encouraged to say, "He will not divide us" into a camera mounted outside the museum that was streaming the event 24/7.

"While the installation began constructively, it deteriorated markedly after one of the artists was arrested on the site of the installation and ultimately necessitated this action," the statement continued. As a result, the museum said, police had been stationed outside 24/7.

LaBeouf was arrested Jan. 26 after an alleged altercation with a Nazi, according to the "He Will Not Divide Us" Twitter account. In a video posted on the social media site that police said was unrelated to his arrest, LaBeouf is seen posing with an attendee.

The "He Will Not Divide Us" live stream has been replaced with this image on its website. SHIA LABEOUF/FACEBOOK
Inset: Shia LaBeouf is seen during his "He Will Not Divide Us" live stream. GETTY IMAGES

The unidentified man said, "Hitler did nothing wrong." LaBeouf, who is Jewish, shoved the man and walked away. The incident reportedly escalated into a "shouting match," and LaBeouf scratched and pushed a man to the ground.

"Ending our engagement with the installation is the most prudent path forward to restore public safety to the Museum, its visitors, staff, and the community," the statement concluded.

The live stream section on the "He Will Not Divide Us" website is now showing a blackened screen of the installation's live stream with "The museum has abandoned us" written in white block letters.

"The artists, however, have not," was its caption.

When Metro reached out to the Museum of the Moving Image for comment on the artists' claims of abandonment, we were referred to the museum's original statement it released on the closure of "He Will Not Divide Us."

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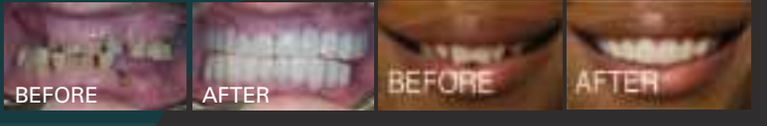

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Uber tests cheap 'flat fares' service in New York City

MARK WARNER/CREATIVE COMMONS

Uber quietly released a "flat fares" pilot program this month that gives New York City customers steep discounts on otherwise pricey rides for 30 days.

The deal offers packages of 10 rides ($5 activation fee), 20 rides ($10 fee) and 40 rides ($20 fee) over a 30-day period at the locked-in rates of $2.99 per UberPool ride and $5.99 for UberX. The rates apply to rides within the five boroughs that would normally cost $30 or less.

If the normal cost of the ride is over $30, flat fares users pay the difference. For instance, a $33 ride would become a $9 ride.

The company sent an email offering the promotion to a number of active Uber users, and released a single Tweet offering the deal to everyone lucky enough to stumble on it during February. The Uber Promo Codes account also sent out a Tweet about it.

Last summer, Uber began testing the flat fares program in select markets in a move to compete with public transit. Flat fares were also tested in Boston, Washington, San Diego, Miami, San Francisco and Seattle.

There's no guarantee the program will be offered again after February, but Uber promises that other attractive offers are in the pipelines.

"We're always playing with different experiments and models for savings," an Uber representative told Metro.

The real value is in outer-borough and inter-borough rides, Uber said, adding that 40 percent of Uber's New York City business is outside of Manhattan.

"Now the outer boroughs are the fastest-growing areas, because people there can't just hail a cab if they live far from the subway," Uber said.

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Why Aren't Doctors Telling About These Two Often

Two Advanced Medical Treatments Every Knee Arthritis Sufferer

By *NY Pain MD*

***NY Pain MD* is a medical clinic with locations in Midtown NYC and Uptown NYC that has treated thousands of knee arthritis and joint pain patients.**

Here is what every knee arthritis sufferer should know about the best treatments and options available today. Including when and why you should consider each of these 2 treatment approaches to get maximum results.

If you suffer with knee or other join arthritis pain, you have probably already tried many treatments ... especially countless pain medications. Experienced doctors understand that, even though pain medications such as anti-inflammatory pain pills are part of the recommended early treatment plan for knee arthritis pain... they are rarely the answer over the longer term.

In most cases they have minimal results (if any) and have a laundry list of potential side effects. Some being serious and even life threatening.

Are There Any Better Options?

Thankfully, advancements in science and technology come extremely fast. And now there are two very good options for knee arthritis to help relieve the pain.

Two options that a lot of knee arthritis sufferers have never heard of.

Before we get into the two treatments, please understand this...

NY Pain MD is a well established medical clinic that has treated thousands of knee arthritis sufferers and joint and back pain sufferers. Patients travel from all over the area and even several states away from NYC to be treated at one of their clinics because they want the best medical treatments available. What you are about to discover are two REAL medical treatments. Not miracle cures you see on infomercials or non-medical treatments promoted on the internet.

Know this fact: There is no cure for arthritis. But there are these two treatments that have already helped thousands of knee arthritis sufferers - possibly just like you.

The first treatment is more common than the second. Even if you have heard of this treatment - or even tried it without good results - please read this. You will find out why it may not have worked for you and how you may be able to get much better results.

#1 Viscosupplementation

Viscosupplementation has gained quite a bit of popularity in recent years and it has gotten mixed results for a couple of reasons.

But before we get into that,here's what you need to know about viscosupplementation.

When you have arthritis, you suffer a decrease in the lubrication fluids in your knees.

In other words, your knee joints basically "dries up."

The lubricating fluid that decreases is called "synovial fluid." pharmaceutical companies (with the help of doctors) can now make ***natural*** synovial fluid gel-like compounds that, during viscosupplementation treatments. Doctors can precisely introduce directly into the knee and other joints.

This helps replace the lubricating fluid to the knee joint - allowing it to move more freely and smoothly and often decreasing or even eliminating the pain.

What Results Can Be Expected?

Like all medical treatments, the results vary and can not be predicted. But many knee arthritis sufferers get dramatic results. It is not uncommon for patients to either postpone knee replacement surgery for years... or even permanently cancel it.

But There Is A BIG Problem

The key is the treatment must be EXTREMELY PRECISE. If the procedure is slightly off, the medication will not get into the knee joint and the treatment will not work.

That's why the experts at ***NY Pain MD*** use Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology so they can actually see the lubricant going directly into the knee joint during the treatment.

Research shows that doctors performing joint injections without this technology can miss the joint as much as 30% of the time.

If you have tried viscosupplementation without this imaging technology without good results - this may be why.

That's why ***NY Pain MD*** takes it even one step further. They do not just use one step process of advanced imaging during treatment - they use two in their "double confirmation" process. This is to ensure patients get the best possible results.

Another Important Factor

Viscosupplementation medications also come in several different "brands" and chemical make-ups. Just like all medications, some people respond better to one than another. So, the experts at ***NY Pain MD*** use several and great effort is taken to figure out what is the best one for YOU.

One last thing: The experts at ***NY Pain MD*** have found that earlier you start Viscosupplementation the better.

This is most likely because the longer you wait - the more joint destruction takes place.

That's why ***NY Pain MD*** is now seeing so many patients as young as 35 to 40.

Summary: If you have knee arthritis pain and have not tried. Viscosupplementation you should look into it as soon as possible.

If you have tried it without good results. you may still be able to get great results with the proper imaging and specific medication.

What Should You Do If Viscosupplementation Fails?

When conservative treatment, including viscosupplementation fails ... most knee arthritis sufferers believe their only option is total knee replacement surgery.

This is not true...and here is why

There is another treatment for serious knee arthritis pain most people (and even doctors) do not know about.

#2: Radiofrequency Treatment

This treatment is technically called, "Radiofrequency Neurotomy." Or RF for short.

RF is a procedure that is based the theory that blocking the nerve supply to the painful area may alleviate pain and restore function.

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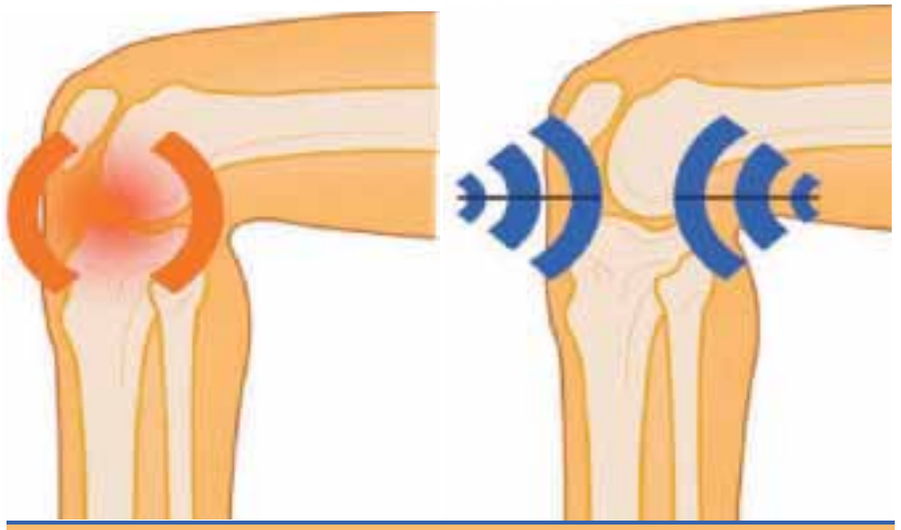
Needs To Know - Before Or After Knee Replacement Surgery

Advanced Treatment Uses Medical Radio Frequencies Waves To Relieve Pain



Science rescues knee arthritis sufferers?: **Radio Frequency Waves are used to block the nerve supply to the painful area and may alleviate pain and restore function to many. Many patients still in pain after a knee replacement may respond very well to these treatments allowing the possibility of avoiding additional surgery.**

Several branches of nerves that surround the knee are known as "genicular nerves."

Radiofrequency waves are delivered to the genicular nerves under advanced imaging to "block" the nerve from transmitting pain signals.

There are two distinct parts to this treatment. First, a test, diagnostic "G Block" procedure is done to determine if the procedure is going to decrease pain and improve function.

If this first "test" procedure is successful, then one to two weeks later, Radio Frequency waves are applied for term relief.

Is It Safe?

Research has shown this to provided significant relief for some patients. to procedure to be safe and effective.

One study published November 4, 2010 in the journal Pain found that RF treated subjects on average "achieved at least 50% knee pain relief at 1,4 and 12 weeks, respectively. No patient reported a post procedure adverse event during the follow-up period.

Some studies indiciate some patients may get years of relief in some cases. "RF neurotomy (radio frequency treatment) of genicular nerves leads to significant pain reduction and functional improvement in a subset of elderly chronic knee osteoarthritis pain, and thus may be an effective treatment in such cases."

It should also be mentioned that, like all procedures, results will vary patient to patient

Who Should Try This Treatment?

RF should be considered after other treatments, such as anti-inflammatory pain medication and viscosupplementation do not offer good enough results.

RF can be utilized before resorting to total knee replacement. RF allows many patients to avoid knee replacement surgery.

RF has also been found effective AFTER knee replacement surgery when the patient still feels pain.

The pain after a failed knee replacement surgery can be debilitating and this procedure can be the only thing that helps and give you relief.

What To Do Next If You Are In Pain

Here is the "X" factor many do not consider that might be the difference between you getting the best possible treatment or not.

Many experts suggest choosing a medical clinic that offers all these treatments and has the proper, most advanced technology all under one roof.

This way, the doctors working on your case can give you a proper examination and advise the best possible treatment plan for your individual case.

Several experts work as a team to offer you the best treatment options at the appropriate time to maximize results. It is also very convenient to have all your doctors and treatments in one place. Traveling to different offices can be time consuming and even more expensive.

NY Pain MD believes this "X" factor is one of the reasons so many knee arthritis sufferers travel from all over to be treated at their advanced medical clinics.

NY Pain MD offers a limited number of complimentary knee arthritis treatment screenings every month. These screenings are a way for knee arthritis sufferers to get some of their ques-tions answered and see if they are a candidate for one of the cutting-edge treatments offered at ***NY Pain MD***

If you would like a complimentary screening, just call 855-456-PAIN [7246] and tell the scheduling coordinator "I would like a complimentary knee arthritis screening." The screenings fill up fast every month. If you do not call in time to get one this month, the scheduling coordiantators will get you appointed for next month

This screening is no cost and no obligation. Many of the treatments offered are covered by many insurance plans and Medicare

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City will guarantee legal aid to low-income New Yorkers facing eviction

Funding just doubled for the city's well-supported "right to counsel" initiative, turning the free legal aid pilot program into a full-fledged city service, Mayor Bill de Blasio and city councilmembers announced Sunday.

Low-income tenants who earn up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level are now entitled to city-sponsored intervention in New York City Housing Court, where the vast majority of those tenants have had no legal counsel.

The program will drastically reduce the excessive rate of homelessness and the cost to taxpayers on homeless shelters and other services, officials say.

The initiative will target the "epidemic of evictions," the bill's lead sponsor, City Council Member Mark Levine, told Metro. "We've had a bill since 2014 and from the beginning it felt like it was an uphill battle. It was the incredible coalition of advocates and the urgency of the issues that brought us here," he said.

New York City mayor Bill de Blasio. GETTY IMAGES

The city plans to add $93 million to the program's current $62 million annual budget, bringing the total investment to $155 million a year. Yet the program will actually provide taxpayers a savings of $320 million a year: The average cost of hiring an attorney is $2,400 is substantially less than the $36,000 cost for per shelter bed each year.

Levine expects the bill to be passed into law in the coming weeks, and will be phased into action over five years.

Tenants currently are on their own to find a lawyer who can work with them through the "right to counsel" pilot program. In the coming years, the court will assign a lawyer to tenants with time to prepare for court, and in some instances, will offer the legal aid at the court appearance as a last resort, Levine explained.

Tenants without attorneys are at an immense disadvantage in court when facing landlords who want to vacate rent-controlled apartments to charge market rates.

Since the beginning of the tenant legal aid pilot two years ago, Levine said, evictions dropped 24 percent — allowing 40,000 people to stay in their homes. Once in full force, the program is expected to safeguard 400,000 New Yorkers a year. AMANDA MIKELBERG

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Latex Lucifer photographing model Ylang Ylang at St. John the Baptist church. JOSEPH DARIUS JAAFARI

Avant-garde artist battles misogyny within LGBTQ community

Photographer sees ugly discrimination on gay dating apps.

JOSEPH DARIUS JAAFARI
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

St. John the Baptist church at Hart and Lewis in Bedford Stuyvesant is typically empty on Tuesdays save for some administrators, a priest and the receptionist.

But last Tuesday, unknown to any of the staff, there was a seven-foot transgender woman being photographed spread eagle on one of the church alters by a photographer named Latex Lucifer — or Lucy, for short.

The model, Ylang Ylang, is one of a few muses for Lucy (he legally changed his name to the mononym last year). Drawing inspiration from religion, gender and sadism-masochism, he uses gore to address the issue of misogyny within the LGBTQ community and hopes to dispel the myth that being feminine is undesirable.

"I don't think the gay community is inclusive," said Lucy. "There's this chiseled, white and masculinized body that's been sensationalized and it's now become a norm for people to openly say on dating sites, 'No fatties, no femmes, no Asians and no blacks.'"

In a sense, Lucy isn't wrong. In the past few years, LGBTQ activists have tried to combat racism within gay dating apps, such as Grindr, where many profiles openly discriminate against people of certain body types and racial backgrounds. An entire website, DouchebagsofGrindr.com, is dedicated to screenshots of profiles telling black, Asian or more feminine men to move on.

"There's no place for me in the gay community because of entrenched misogyny where being feminine is shameful," said Ylang Ylang. "There's room for me to express myself but everything in the gay community centers around being white and masculine."

So Lucy has made a point to only use models who don't fit the mold of what is normally considered attractive within the gay community by photographing sex workers or trans women, such as Ylang Ylang.

"I just love her personality," Lucy said about Ylang Ylang, who then slung on a harness of chains around her tiny waist while slipping into a pair of 8-inch high heels.

Since leaving his job as a runway hairstylist last year, Lucy has seen modest success with his art. He's now being featured in two magazines and is partnering up with a gay tech company for a photo spread coming out later this year.

> *"I don't think the gay community is inclusive,"*
> Lucy

"It's all been a real growing experience for me as an artist, and it's so much more fulfilling," he said.

At the photo shoot in the church — an undercover operation that required distracting the receptionist and posing as art students taking photos of statues — Lucy rushed through a roll of film from his retro point-and-shoot camera while a few parishioners gawked as Ylang Ylang sprawled herself out below a statue of St. John.

As the two rushed out of the church, they waved goodbye to the receptionist – who then wished them good luck on their art project.

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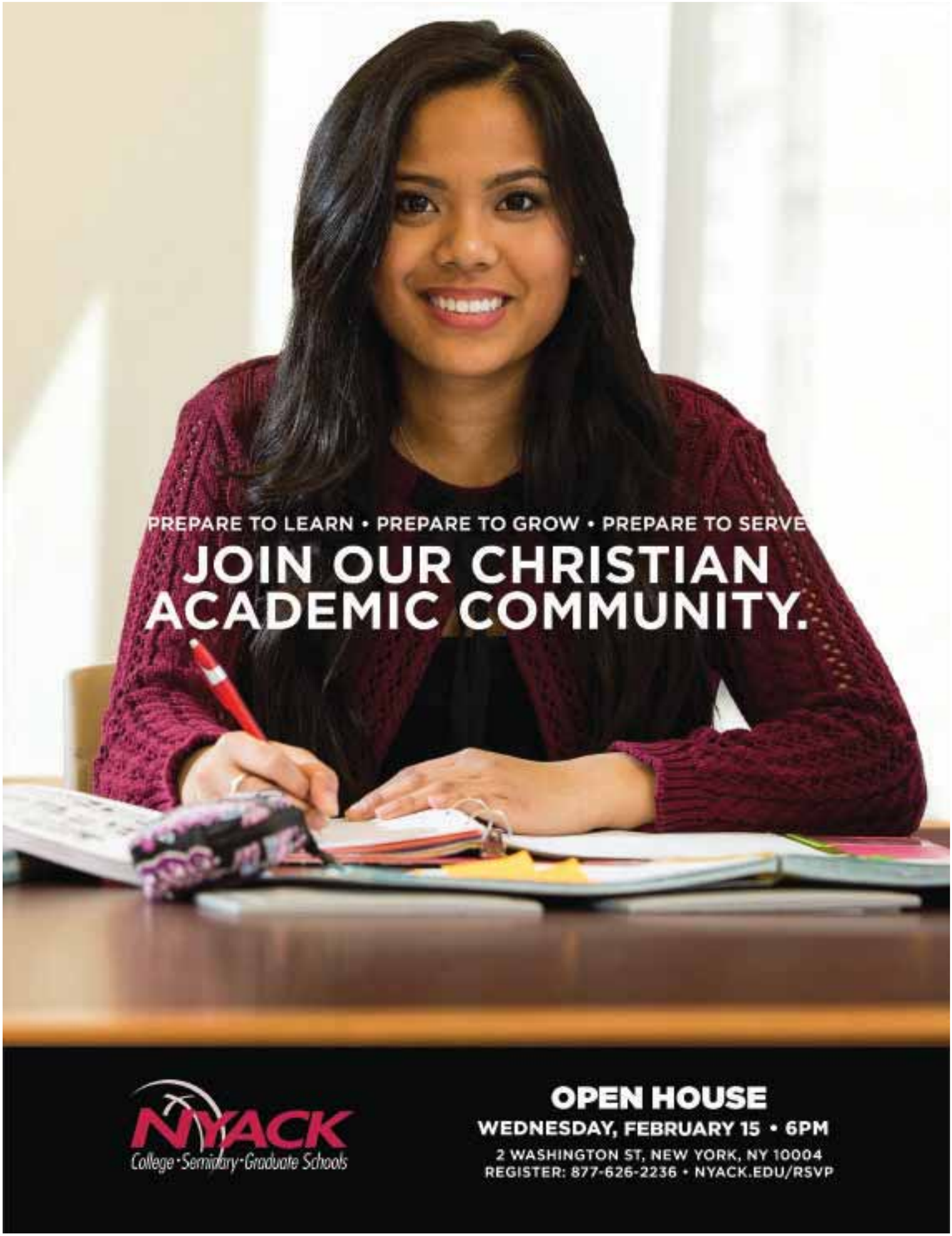
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U.S. State Silver Bars go to residents in 6 states

U.S. residents who find their state listed below in bold get first dibs at just the $59 minimum set for state residents while all non state residents must pay $134

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NATIONWIDE – The phone lines are ringing off the hook.

That's because U.S. State Silver Bars sealed away in State Vault Bricks are being handed over to NY, VT, MA, NJ, CT and PA residents at just the state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury for the next 2 days.

This is not a misprint. For the next 2 days residents who find their state on the Distribution List above in bold are getting individual State Silver Bars at just the state minimum of $59 set by the Lincoln Treasury. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Bricks loaded with five U.S. State Silver Bars before the deadline ends.

And here's the best part. Every NY, VT, MA, NJ, CT and PA resident who gets

(Continued on next page)

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PHOTO ENLARGEMENT SHOWS ENGRAVING DETAIL

(Continued from previous page)

at least two Vault Bricks is also getting free shipping and free handling. That's a real steal because all other state residents must pay over six hundred dollars for each State Vault Brick.

Not long ago, nobody knew that the only U.S. State Silver Bars locked away in the private vaults of the Lincoln Treasury would be allocated to the Federated Mint for a limited release to residents in 6 states. Every single one of the 50 U.S. State Silver Bars are date numbered in the order they ratified the Constitution and were admitted into the Union beginning in the late 1700s.

"As Executive Advisor to the Lincoln Treasury I get paid to deliver breaking news. So, for anyone who hasn't heard yet, highly collectable U.S. State Silver Bars are now being handed over at just the state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury to residents in 6 states who beat the offer deadline, which is why I pushed for this announcement to be widely advertised," said Mary Ellen Withrow, the emeritus 40th Treasurer of the United States of America.

"These bars are solid .999 pure fine silver and will always be a valuable precious metal which is why everyone is snapping up as many as they can before they're all gone," Withrow said.

There's one thing Withrow wants to make very clear. State residents only have two days to call the Toll Free Order Hotlines to get the U.S. State Silver Bars.

"These valuable U.S. State Silver Bars are impossible to get at banks, credit unions or the U.S. Mint. In fact, they're only being handed over at state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury to NY, VT, MA, NJ, CT and PA residents who call the Toll Free Hotline before the deadline ends two days from today's publication date", said Timothy J. Shissler, Executive Director of Vault Operations at the private Lincoln Treasury.

To make it fair, special Toll Free Overflow Hotlines have been set up to ensure all residents have an equal chance to get them.

Rapid shipments to state residents are scheduled to begin with the first calls being accepted at precisely 8:30am today.

"We're bracing for all the calls and doing everything we can to make sure no one gets left out, but the U.S. State Silver Bars are only being handed over at just the state resident minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury for the next two days. For now, residents can get the U.S. State Silver Bars at just the state minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury as long as they call before the order deadline ends," confirmed Shissler.

"With so many state residents trying to get these U.S. State Silver Bars, lines are busy so keep trying. All calls will be answered," Shissler said. ■

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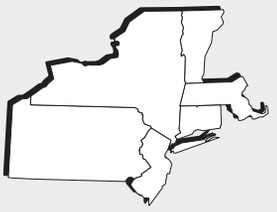

1. IF ALL LINES ARE BUSY CALL THIS SPECIAL TOLL FREE OVERFLOW HOTLINE: **1-888-414-3758 EXT.FMS1974**
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■ **A SNEAK PEAK INSIDE SILVER VAULT BRICKS:** Pictured left reveals the valuable .999 pure fine silver bars inside each State Silver Vault Brick. Pictured right are the State Silver Vault Bricks containing the only U.S. State Silver Bars known to exist with the double forged state proclamation. NY, VT, MA, NJ, CT and PA residents are authorized to get individual State Silver Bars at just $59 state resident minimum set by the Lincoln Treasury. That's why everyone should be taking full Vault Bricks loaded with five State Silver Bars before they're all gone. And here's the best part. Every resident who gets at least two Vault Bricks is also getting free shipping and free handling. That's a real steal because all other state residents must pay over six hundred dollars for each State Vault Brick.

GETTY IMAGES

WEATHER TALK: WHAT CAUSES 'SNOW BOMBS' THAT BURY US IN SNOW?

WEATHER TALK

MICHAEL FRIEDMANN
@WeatherTalk

Now that we've had a taste of more typical winter stuff, with two coastal winter storms, let's take a closer look at these ocean snow "bombs."

It's actually very, very hard to get the perfect nor'easter — the one that buries us under a foot or more of crystal crunchiness and slaps us silly with its biting winds. Like baking a soufflé, or making the Hollandaise sauce for your eggs benedict, it's an elegant, very sensitive process that can easily go off kilter if one ingredient, one element of timing, track, or speed, isn't right.

As we watch the computer models spin up disturbances and hint at coastal development days in advance, we have to bridle our excitement and get real. One wrong piece of the puzzle could mean flurries, ice, rain, or nothing at all, instead of major snowfall.

Rarely are any two coastal snowstorms exactly alike, but one common bond, we know well: sudden, rapid deepening of a low pressure center just off our shores, usually from Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, to Cape Cod, and movement toward the north or northeast.

The sharp land/ocean contrast helps strengthen the fronts associated with storm, which, in turn, forcibly lift moist ocean air up and over the necessary cold, arctic air inland. If the snow bomb is perfect, it moves over what we call the "benchmark," or 70W latitude/40N latitude.

Snowy nor'easters have a wide range of pedigrees: Some form over the Gulf of Mexico, loaded with juice, and hug the coast. Sometimes, the storm starts out life as a weak, fast ripple that dives down from the nether reaches of northwest Canada, meeting up with a charge of upper air energy from the deep south. Either way, next time we miss the "Big One," remember — it was probably low-percentage, anyway.

Michael Friedmann, a New York-area meteorologist, can currently be seen on metropolitan area cable news on weekends. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/WeatherTalk.

The week ahead

Today: Cloudy with strong winds; high 39.

Tomorrow: Partly sunny and chilly; high 38.

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, slight chance of snow; high 41.

Thursday: Partly sunny, windy and cold; high 37.

Friday: Sunny and chilly; high 39.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, not as cold; high 46.

Sunday: Partly sunny and mild; high 53.

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ISTOCK

Valentine's Day of the future could be a virtual reality

Metro investigates what impact technology will have on the way we celebrate Feb. 14.

New technological devices are constantly trying to make life easier and better, with varying degrees of success. The future may also include new devices and apps that will not just improve relationships among people, but also create virtual relationships.

Robots, for instance, are making inroads. Care and companion cyborgs have become accepted into our lives, and people bond with them. As experts believe, in the future, we will become closer and more connected to machines.

"People will converse with apps on their smartphones and in some cases they may lose track of the fact they are talking with a machine, not a person," Martin Ford, who focuses on the impact of artificial intelligence and robotics on society, told Metro. He is author of "Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future."

In the near future, however, such relationships could become problematic and may involve a human withdrawing from "normal" relationships, experts say.

Another concern is the implications of sex robots, for example, and whether they further objectify women or cause people to place less value on meaningful human relationships.

"There is also some doubt over the ethics of sex robots," explained Kate Devlin, senior lecturer at the University of London.

"But I think the benefits outweigh those doubts. Sex robots could provide a way for people to be sexually active where they might not have access to socially normative relationships. Sex is a pleasurable, affirming act that enhances our well-being. If we can give people who may not be able to access the opportunity to experience it, then I think sex robots are a wonderful thing."

Virtual reality technology could have a dramatic impact on our relationships as well, with the rise in pornographic content and applications. That is often accompanied by sex toys, known as teledildonics, that allow people to take part in sexual activity with each other even when they are in different places.

That is why experts believe that soon we could have the ability to meet and interact in virtual reality environments.

For example, on Valentine's Day, you might be able to have a virtual date in a romantic place hundreds or thousands of miles away from your partner.

Maybe you'll be able to give the gift of an original work of art, created by an artificial intelligence application.

"Robots and software applications will definitely begin to stand in for other people in [a] specific area," Ford said. However, it will be a long time before people will start buying chocolates and flowers for their machines. But 30 or 50 years from now … who knows?"

DMITRY BELYAEV, METRO WORLD NEWS

"Since human loneliness is on the rise around the world, robots will fill this void."

Joanne Pransky, self-described "world's first robotic psychiatrist"

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North Korea tests ballistic missile

The launch marks the first test of Trump's vow to get tough on an isolated North Korean regime.

North Korea fired a ballistic missile into the sea early on Sunday, the first such test since President Donald Trump was elected, and his administration indicated that Washington would have a calibrated response to avoid escalating tensions.

The test was likely to have been of an intermediate-range Musudan-class missile that landed in the Sea of Japan, according to South Korea's military, not an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile, which the North has said it could test at any time.

A U.S. official said the Trump administration had been expecting a North Korean "provocation" soon after taking office and will consider a full range of options in response, but they would be calibrated to show U.S. resolve while avoiding escalation.

Later, White House adviser Stephen Miller said on the television show "Fox News Sunday" that "we are going to reinforce and strengthen our vital alliances in the Pacific region as part of our strategy to deter and prevent the increasing hostility that we've seen in recent years from the North Korean regime."

The new administration is also likely to step up pressure on China to rein in North Korea, reflecting Trump's previously stated view that Beijing has not done enough on this front, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"This was no surprise," the official said. "The North Korean leader likes to draw attention at times like this."

The latest test comes a day after Trump held a summit meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and also follows Trump's phone call last week with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

"I just want everybody to understand, and fully know, that the United States of America is behind Japan, our great ally, 100 percent," Trump told reporters in Palm Beach, Florida, speaking alongside Abe. He made no further comments.

A man watches a news broadcast on North Korea's unidentified ballistic missile launch at Seoul Station in Seoul, South Korea. GETTY IMAGES

Abe called the launch "absolutely intolerable" and said North Korea must comply with U.N. Security Council resolutions.

NATO condemned the missile test in a statement by Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, who said North Korea "must refrain from further provocations, halt all launches using ballistic missile technology and abandon once and for all its ballistic missile programs …"

The French foreign ministry also condemned the launch, issuing a statement that said "France reaffirms its solidarity with its partners in Asia-Pacific whose security is threatened by the North Korean nuclear and ballistic program."

China is North Korea's main ally but has been frustrated by Pyongyang's repeated provocations, although it bristles at pressure from Washington and Seoul to curb the North and its young leader, Kim Jong Un.

China's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump and his aides are likely to weigh a series of possible responses, including new U.S. sanctions to tighten financial controls, an increase in naval and air assets in and around the Korean peninsula and accelerated installation of new missile defense systems in South Korea, the administration official said. REUTERS

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NY CLINICAL TRIALS

Top Italian official says Facebook must do more against hate speech

Facebook must do much more to stamp out hate speech on its site, the president of Italy's lower house of parliament said, warning that rising abuse on social media was being fueled by fake news.

Laura Boldrini, herself often the focus of sexist insults and online threats, complained to Facebook managers in November about hate speech on the social network and put forward several proposals on ways to deal with the problem.

"Two months after our meeting, they have done nothing. They have not even written to me about what I said. Good manners would have expected at least a reply," Boldrini told Reuters in a gilded, art-filled room in the parliament building.

She said she would write an open letter to Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg this week reiterating her call for a more effective and timely policing of his site.

"His platform risks becoming home to dangerous predators … the company has to take responsibility for this," she said.

In a statement, Facebook said it was committed to battling hate speech and fake news, and was working closely with various institutions in Italy to deal with cyber bullying.

President of the Chamber of Deputies Laura Boldrini GETTY IMAGES

> *"Fake news and hate go together. It is not being done as a joke. They are looking to discredit their adversaries. It is short-circuiting democracy."*
>
> Boldrini

Facebook, Twitter, Google's YouTube and Microsoft agreed last May to an EU code of conduct to tackle online hate speech, pledging to review the majority of valid requests for removal of illegal abuse within 24 hours in Europe.

However, in a report released in December, the European Commission said only 40 percent of hate speech was being reviewed within 24 hours, with wide variations from country to country. In Italy, just 4 percent of hate posts were being removed within a day, the report said.

Boldrini, who is the third most senior official in Italy behind only the president and the president of the upper house Senate, says she is regularly deluged with abuse and in November published a selection of the offending comments.

"Boldrini, you are a handicapped whore," says one. "Why has no one killed this terrorist," says another.

Despite flagging such insults to senior Facebook managers, many still remained on her home page, she said.

One of her requests was for Facebook to open a full office in Italy to deal with its 28 million users in the country. At present, Italian complaints are handled at the company's European headquarters in Ireland, but Boldrini said the firm had not told her how many of its employees there spoke Italian.

REUTERS

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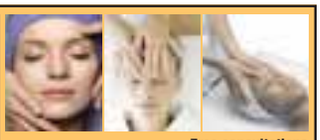

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Shake-ups on the runway

Raf Simons to make American fashion great again

For his hotly-anticipated debut for Calvin Klein, Raf Simons put his spin on Americana. With a diverse lineup of models (we are, after all, a melting pot) he tipped his hat to the wild west (cowboy shirts and metal-tipped boots); Wall Street (slick suiting and exquisitely tailored coats); sports (varsity sleeves on eyebrow-raising sheer tops and blazers) and quilts (heritage prints lined some extremely cool parkas). Then came the wild card: party dresses and elegant outerwear covered in clear vinyl, that were both strange and amazing. The designer summed it up in a statement: "It is the coming together of different characters and different individuals, just like America itself."

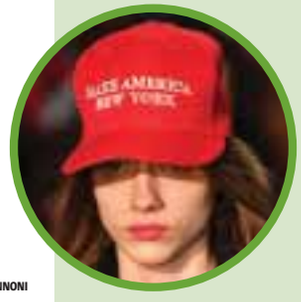
GIOVANNI GIANNONI

3 Highlights from NYFW

INSTAGRAM/@ RAGANDBONE

1. Rag & Bone's birthday bash

Marcus Wainwright skipped a traditional runway show for Rag & Bone's 15-year anniversary. Instead he held a photo exhibition showcasing the collection, followed by a party. The outerwear — especially the hip camouflage jacket on Joan Smalls and dapper plaid coat on Carmelo Anthony — is why the brand is still one of our faves.



2. Getting political

So many political statements during the Public School show, but the biggest dig at President Trump: models wearing red caps with the words "Make America New York."

3. Power dressing

The future is definitely female, according to Victoria Beckham. The designer created the perfect power wardrobe for all the #girlbosses.

5 MINUTES WITH...

Tanya Taylor

What inspired you this season?
1920s Japanese meisen robes. It was in the early 20th century that these vivid colors became popular for everyday wear.

How are you keeping your team creative in such a volatile political climate?
We have a Monday morning meeting each week as a team. It gives us the opportunity to address what each member has on their plate for the week, but also as a reminder that we're all in this together. Everyone has a voice.

How do you think the industry's relationship with the first lady is going to change?
It has already changed. Designers are not all clamoring to dress first lady Melania Trump as they did Michelle Obama. However, it's still early in her term and I'm certain things will continue to evolve like they always do.

What are your thoughts on dressing Melania Trump?
It's too soon to tell. I like to dress women who represent something I believe in, and Melania has not yet chosen a cause. If she stands behind something empowering, then perhaps.

ED SINGLETON / COURTESY OF TANYA TAYLOR; PHOTO OF TANYA: SAMANTHA NANDEZ/BFA.COM

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE

Alexander Wang goes back to black

Alexander Wang's show invite clearly stated "no after-party" but his collection begged for the club. The designer brought showgoers all the way uptown to the historic and dilapidated RKO Hamilton Theater at Broadway and 146th Street where models stomped down the stage (literally) in subversive, mostly all-black looks.

Diversity rules at Christian Siriano

It wasn't all high-voltage fabulousness at Christian Siriano. The designer, known for inclusivity, had some statements to make. He cast one of the most diverse runways of fashion week including 10 plus-size models in looks that oozed universal appeal: a sensual velvet turtleneck with elegant billowing trousers or a show-stopping metallic silk gown. But the biggest reaction wasn't to his dramatic evening wear or his ladylike separates in a desert palette of auburn, copper and pale pink. It was a T-shirt that read "People are People" that got the crowds cheering.

DAN LECCA

5 MINUTES WITH...

Ryan Lobo and Ramon Martin of Tome

What inspired you this season?
The powerful voices of our mothers, sisters, daughters and girlfriends that rang across the nation and the world.

How are you keeping your teams motivated in such a volatile political climate?
You can find creativity in any situation, and, in fact, emotional, volatile climates can help hone your vision. For instance, every season we are inspired by female artists, and this season, in this time of protest, certain artists known for their political and social commentary became the focus.

What are your thoughts on dressing Melania Trump?
We are an "every woman" brand, so we welcome anyone who wants to wear Tome to wear our clothes. That said, would we proactively reach out to her? No.

What's one recent pop culture obsession?
Alicia Keys and her continued efforts to wear no makeup in any public appearances and photo shoots. It's so refreshing to see someone who is not letting society's ideas of beauty dictate her look.

FRONT ROW

Kylie Jenner at Alexander Wang

Millie Bobby Brown, A$AP Rocky, and Sofia Coppola at Calvin Klein

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Huma Abedin, Priyanka Chopra, and Diane Kruger attend Prabal Gurung.

Gwyneth Paltrow at Calvin Klein

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Michael Cera is not into smartphones

The actor talks "The Lego Batman Movie," cinephilia and getting around without GPS.

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Michael Cera reunites with his "Arrested Development" co-star Will Arnett in "The Lego Batman," voicing Robin and the Caped Crusader. WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Voicing Robin in "The Lego Batman Movie" opens Michael Cera up to a particular line of questioning: comic-book talk. But he's not a comic-book nerd. He is, however, a movie nerd. The "Arrested Development" alum is a regular at New York City repertory houses. Lately he's been bingeing the films by Abbas Kiarostami, Mike Leigh and Rainer Werner Fassbinder. As it happens, there's a lot that Cera — who just had two films at Sundance ("Lemon" and "Person to Person") and will soon be seen in the next season of "Twin Peaks" — can talk about.

Is there a specific reason why you see so many movies? Would you want to curate your own film programs at some point?
I don't know. I don't feel like I'm a good organizer. [Laughs] I tend to enjoy other people's efforts.

So you're just seeing them because you like it.
Yeah. I don't see it as productive in any way for me. It's just enjoyment. I feel like it's a school, in a way. It's kind of an unconscious philosophical education or something. When you spend time with people who are so connected to their own outlook on the world, and especially if they have a poetic one, it's a really good feeling. It's like soul food. You learn from it in ways you don't even track.

There's so much access to movies nowadays, but I worry not enough people take advantage of that. Technology has shrunk our attention spans.

GETTY IMAGES

Rosario Dawson [who voices Batgirl] has this fountain of knowledge. She can regurgitate information in a really impressive way. It made me feel so ashamed. If I was trying to give you all the information I was trying to convey, I would probably just send you a link. [Laughs]

Tech can be so bad.
I don't have a smartphone and everyone always asks me, "How do you get around?" The old way! [Laughs] That kind of baffles people, not having a GPS in your hand at all times.

A nerd of a different kind

Are you also a comic-book person?
I'm not. That passed me by. I think I would have gotten into it if I had a friend growing up who was into it. But I just never did. It never came my way.

I don't think my brain has enough space to be crazy about comics. It's too full already with movies and music and books.
There's a blizzard of content out there. There's only so many hours in the day.

Exactly. This is why I've never seen "The Sopranos."
I know! People look at you like you just don't care about anything if you haven't seen a show they love. You see this disgust — like, "You are so much less than I thought you were." [Laughs]

I know this look all too well.
It's like you told them you don't know basic addition. Sorry! We've led different lives!

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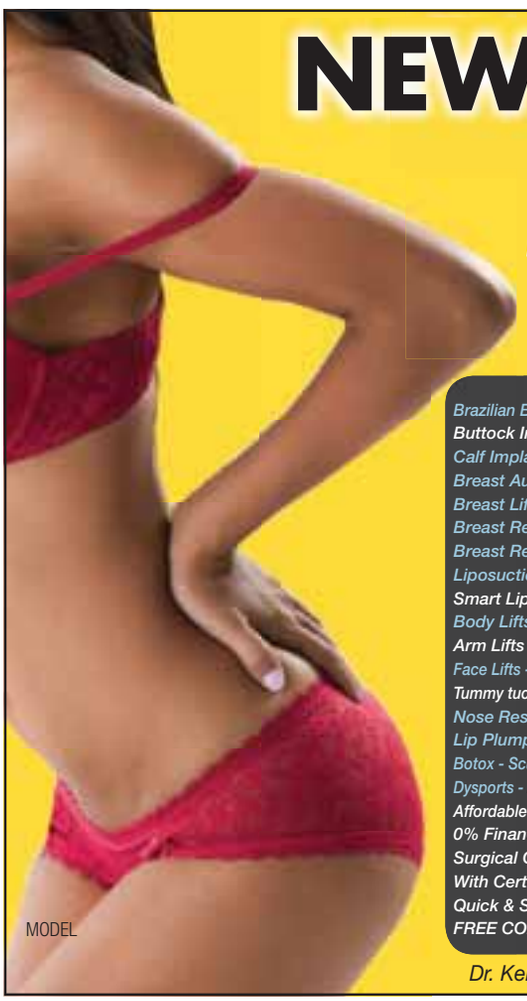

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Lady Liberty takes a Final Bow

Just three years after the massive meltdown, the government gave the Morgan Silver Dollar a final chance to shine. In 1921, facing a serious shortage, the mint struck Morgan Silver Dollars for one more brief, historic year. Today, the last-ever 1921 Morgan Silver Dollar belongs in the hands of collectors, history buffs, or anyone who values the artistry and legacy of this American classic.

A Private Vault Gives Up its Secrets

Millions *more* silver dollars were melted over the past ninety years and today, private hoards account for virtually all the surviving Morgan Silver Dollars. We should know—we hunt for them every week. In fact, on one buying trip into America's heartland, as we were guided into a wealthy owner's massive private vault, we were thrilled to discover a hoard of nearly two thousand 1921 Morgan Silver Dollars, all having actually circulated in American commerce nearly 100 years ago! We wasted no time in securing the entire treasure trove of silver dollars into our own vault.

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Mischa Barton crashed a U-Haul into an apartment building

Poor, poor Mischa Barton.

The erstwhile star of "The O.C." has had her fair share of troubles lately.

First, there was that whole thing where she claimed she was drugged with GHB after she was hospitalized for acting super bizarrely in her backyard.

Now, TMZ is reporting that the actress literally drove her U-Haul truck into an apartment building. Okay, girl.

Barton apparently moved out of her West Hollywood apartment last Wednesday, and on Friday was driving to another building in the area when she uh, misjudged the height of the carport and crashed the U-Haul into the top of it.

So, was she just driving around her U-Haul around for two days aimlessly before moving into her new spot? We could think of a few better uses of our time — rewatching "50 Shades Darker" on an infinite loop, perhaps. That would be better. More tortuous, but better.

Good luck to Barton, and honestly? We hope she gets well soon because she is kind of a mess.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Um, are Amber Rose and Wiz Khalifa back together?

Amber Rose and Wiz Khalifa are probably back together.

The pair, who split in September 2015 after a little over a year of marriage, were snapped doing all kinds of kissing and canoodling at Clive Davis' pre-Grammys bash. It's like a school dance up in here!

Rose was very recently linked to Val Chmerkovskiy, who she met on the set of "Dancing with the Stars." The two dated for five months, and during that time, they were also extremely PDA-heavy. I think it's just Rose's thing, which is chill.

I suppose it's entirely possible that this is just the way Rose and Khalifa co-parent, but I'd say it's unlikely. So, congratulations, maybe?

Grammy Awards: Statement makers

RACHEL RACZKA

Kelsea Ballerini in Ines Di Santo

Katy Perry in Tom Ford

Laverne Cox in custom Bryan Hearns

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Jennifer Lopez in Ralph & Russo

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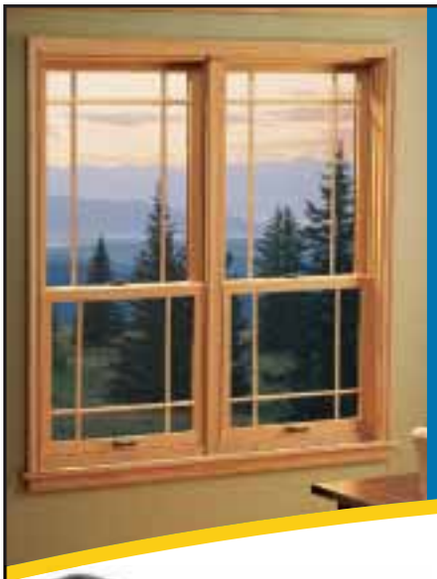

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jobs & education

Holocaust education takes flight through 'Butterfly Project'

ILZE MILLER US EMBASSY LATVIA

Using art to teach students the importance of empathy, compassion and standing up against injustice.

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As we embark on a socio-political era defined by hate and bigotry, seizing the opportunity to teach students the value of empathy and compassion has never been more important.

But with an education system that focuses more on performance assessments, especially in the core subjects of reading, math and science, this idea often goes by the wayside, explains educator and artist Cheryl Rattner Price.

She partnered with documentary filmmaker, Joe Fab to create a movie about "The Butterfly Project," a San Diego program she's been involved with that inspires students to paint and display ceramic butterflies — one for each of the 1.5 million children killed during the Holocaust. The two hope to ignite a conversation around their main mission: making a Holocaust education mandatory nationally.

It's a broad education, and one that extends far beyond the religious realm, explains Fab. "It's a very human issue with lessons that are widely applicable," he continues. "It has to do with shaping students' character and growing global citizens."

By taking the lessons of the Holocaust out of the textbook, the interactive project, which has already been rolled out in 20 states, aims to allow students to connect with the subject matter on a more personal level.

ILZE MILLER US EMBASSY LATVIA

The exercise of painting each butterfly, while looking at a picture of the child and reading through a card of their information creates something incredibly meaningful for the students, Price explains.

The project is meant to set the context and have students understand, "this is someone just like you. This child that you're painting a butterfly for is someone you can identify with. They had a life where they had challenges just like you, and then everything turned on them," she adds. "We're helping participants to understand that they're acting as a voice for the child that no longer has one."

In the end, it's immersive projects like these that help students to truly understand and reflect on what it's like to be part of a marginalized and unprotected community, she adds.

"It's also a reminder that regular people have to be aware of what's going on around them and protect the good things they have — the culture, the country, the values, the morals —all of those things have to be guarded." says Fab. "They can't just be taken for granted."

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At Tip Top Bar & Grill, Valentine's Day goes political.

Every Tuesday night — Take Action Tuesdays — folks gather at the Bed-Stuy dive bar to write letters to their representatives while enjoying $5 shot and beer specials. But the libations only help the ink flow: In the past weeks, they've mailed more than 300 postcards, according to organizers Jenn Sweeney and Maggie Bard.

For the Valentine's Day edition, the group recommends thinking of it as though you're mailing Valentines to that "special someone who is standing up for your rights as a human being." Bard and Sweeney will provide sample writing prompts, addresses for elected officials galore, postcard templates from the Women's March "10 Actions/100 Days" initiative, plus additional materials if you'd like to design your own (you know, really catch Chuck Schumer's eye). Suggested $2 donation to help cover the cost of stamps and supplies.

KATE MOONEY

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Network your way to the top

Expert tips for building and maintaining professional connections

SARA FEINSTEIN
@SaraBFeinstein
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We all know the saying, "it's not what you know; it's who you know."

But Ivan Misner, founder and chairman of BNI, the world's largest business networking organization, has an entirely different outlook: "It's how well you know them," he says.

"Networking is about cultivating relationships with people, not just doing transactions," he explains, because at the end of the day, "people want to do business with people they know, like and trust."

Using this approach, Misner walked us through some tips for being a more effective networker.

Don't jump the gun

Forget the expression, "it never hurts to ask," says Misner. "It totally hurts to ask — if you ask too soon." Before you abruptly hand somebody your card and ask if they want to do business with you or be part of your professional network, you need them to know who you are, what you do, and that you're good at it, explains Misner. He calls it the VCP process — visibility, credibility, profitability — and you can only begin to "profit," or in other words, gain a connection or referral, after you've passed the first two stages.

Connect on a personal level

After connecting with somebody you'd like to add to your network, you should immediately set up a one-to-one meeting where you get to know each other better, says Misner. To ensure a meaningful visit, he suggests exchanging and talking through a list of GAINS: goals, accomplishments, interests, networks and skills. Overall, the technique is extremely helpful when it comes to understanding who the other person is, he says, and "the more you know about them personally, in a professional context, the better the connection you can make."

Show interest

When it comes to networking, "it's so much more important to be interested than interesting," says Misner. "When you show interest in someone else, you're much more likely to be remembered." You should be asking questions like, "What's your target market? and "What do you love about what you do?" If they do eventually open up to you, he suggests concluding by asking "What are some of the biggest challenges you have in your business?"

"That's your opportunity to act on being a great networker," he adds, by recognizing their challenges and connecting them to somebody who could help them out.

Help out

Oftentimes, people show up wanting to sell something — whether it be their brand or a product — but don't think twice about buying something or helping someone. "That's the first misstep," he explains. He likens the idea of effective networking to opening up a checking account: The bank expects you to put money in before you withdraw from it. In other words, "You can't ask somebody for something without first investing in the relationship. You have to be willing to help people in order for them to help you."

The fix is in: How easy is it to rig sports in the United States in 2017?

The potential for scandal is great in the NHL and UFC.

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The New England Patriots' miraculous comeback to beat the Atlanta Falcons in Super Bowl LI last week was so incredible it was as if a higher power was pulling the strings.

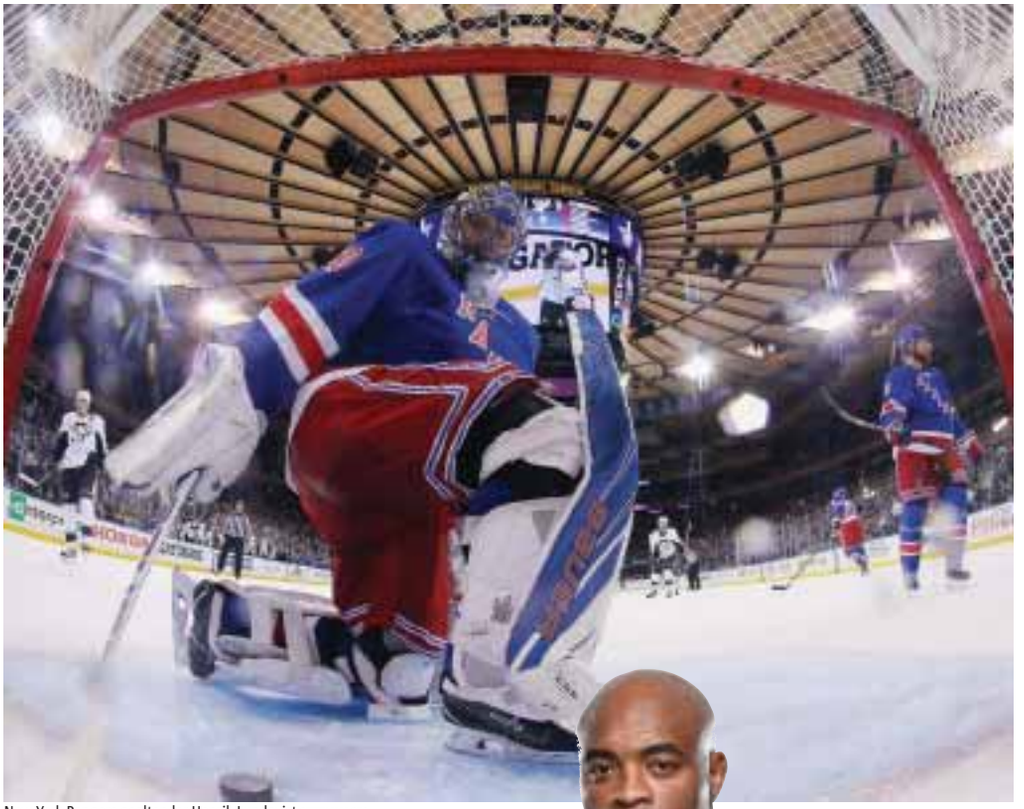
Conspiracy theorists had a field day in the immediate aftermath of what will go down as one of, if not *the,* greatest Super Bowls of all time. Those in the tinfoil hats pointed out that the Falcons hardly attempted to burn the clock late in the game, and that Fox — which broadcast the game — posted a graphic before New England won that read, "New England Patriots — wins Super Bowl with touchdown." (Likely just poor grammar from a production assistant.)

The Super Bowl truthers also claim that James White's knee was down before he scored the game-winning TD, and the truly nutty believe President Donald Trump and even Russian President Vladimir Putin had their fingerprints on the game. After all, Trump is buddy-buddy with Patriots owner Robert Kraft, and both Trump and Kraft have a history with Putin (Putin once stole one of Kraft's Super Bowl rings, so last week's win was reimbursement).

As fun as those theories are, football is likely the most difficult game in all of American pro sports to rig.

Metro recently spoke with Joe Gagliano, author of the new book "No Grey Areas," about how difficult it would be to rig a pro football game and how easy (or hard) it would be to fix other major sports in the U.S.

Gagliano financed, orchestrated and was later indicted for his role in one of the most prominent point-shaving scandals in U.S. history in the Arizona State basketball case of the 1990s.



New York Rangers goaltender Henrik Lundqvist GETTY IMAGES

Football

As much as Patriots haters would like it to not be the case, Gagliano believes the Super Bowl was on the up and up.

"In football, you've got 11 guys on the field," Gagliano told Metro. "Even if you had a quarterback in your pocket it'd be next to impossible, and you're just not going to get an NFL quarterback because they're just so highly compensated. There's just no way to motivate a quarterback to fix a game because they're already making so much money.

"You're not going to get a college quarterback either, because if he throws two or three interceptions in the first quarter of a game — the coach is going to yank him."

Even kickers, who are paid significantly less than QBs but have a direct influence on game point totals, would have a tough time "rigging" a contest, according to Gagliano.

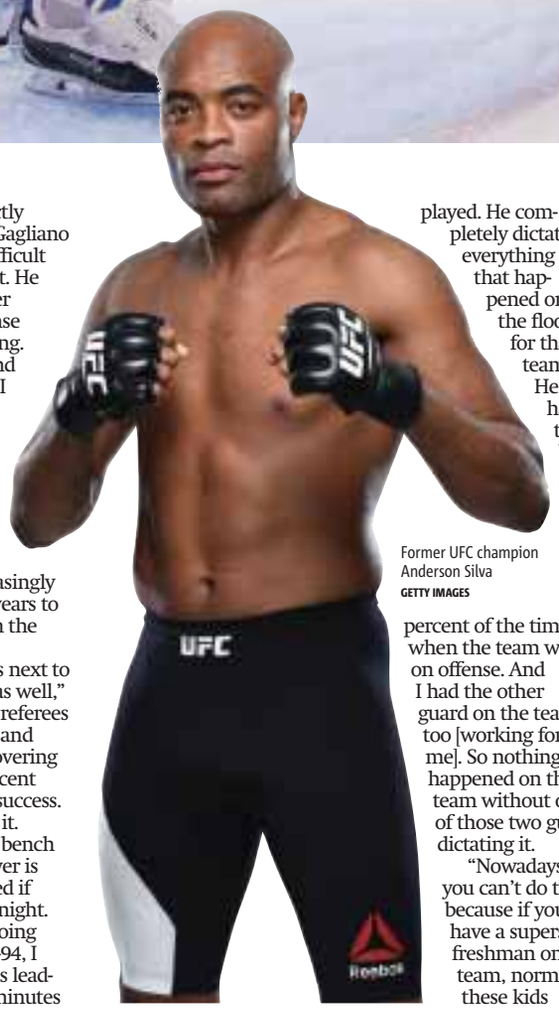
"The kicker needs to be in a situation where he's going to directly impact the line," Gagliano said. "It's really difficult to get to that point. He has no control over how well his offense or defense is playing. If I was a kicker and I was on the take, I know I could not control my own destiny."

Basketball

Gagliano's cash cow was basketball, but he says it has become increasingly difficult over the years to rig what occurs on the court.

"In the NBA it's next to impossible today as well," he said. "A couple referees have tried to do it and even they were hovering around the 70 percent mark in terms of success. It's so tough to do it. Even a lower-paid bench player — that player is going to get yanked if he's having a bad night.

"When I was doing this thing in 1993-94, I had a guy who was leading the NCAA in minutes played. He completely dictated everything that happened on the floor for that team. He had the ball 80 percent of the time when the team was on offense. And I had the other guard on the team too [working for me]. So nothing happened on that team without one of those two guys dictating it.



Former UFC champion Anderson Silva GETTY IMAGES

"Nowadays you can't do that because if you have a superstar freshman on a team, normally these kids are one year and done. They're playing for NBA scouts. And there's so much money in front of them that … there's no reason for them to go to the dark side."

Hockey

Team sports are obviously much more difficult to fix than individual sports (boxing, track and field, tennis) because of the number of parties that need to be involved, but Gagliano does believe that the NHL is susceptible to scandal.

"I think if you get a goalie in the twilight of his career it could be possible," he said. "These guys don't make a lot of money relative to the other sports. Even if you make $1 million a year, your career is typically only lasting five or six years in the NHL, and you're paying taxes and you're building up a lifestyle — that money seems to go pretty quickly.

"So, you get a higher-profile game on a Saturday or Sunday, and you have the goalie put three to four goals through his wickets in the first period, and you bet the over. You bet over four and a half goals, five goals — and you can probably cash your ticket at that point."

MMA

The most popular sport with the most red flags in the U.S. is mixed martial arts, according to Gagliano.

"It has the potential to be as corrupt as possible," he said. "You look at that sport as a whole, you look at these kids — not making a lot of money. You look at the lifespan of an athlete in that sport, then you put a betting line on it? These kids are getting their brains pounded in, and there's not a big payday there at all.

"You look at a guy like Anderson Silva — pound for pound the best fighter in the UFC for years. But he was constantly arguing and was in bitter battles with Dana White and the UFC where he thought he deserved more money and the UFC didn't want to pay him more money."

Tebow still scratching and clawing for spot with Mets

Tebow's trainer loves what he sees from the former QB.

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sports@metro.us

Chad Moeller remembers getting the phone call last summer around Memorial Day weekend. On the other end of the line was a friend of his, a major league manager who he knew from his own 11-year career in the major leagues as a catcher. The voice on the other end of the line said there was an athlete who was interested in transitioning from one sport to baseball, but as to who this potential player was, well, it was a bit of a mystery. But it was a project and one that he wouldn't regret taking.

After Moeller had agreed to take on this project — only then would he learn the name of the athlete. Tim Tebow, of all people, would appear at the Scottsdale Batting Cages owned by Moeller. Tebow, the former NFL quarterback and Heisman winner at Florida, showed up to begin the transition from the gridiron to the diamond.

Today, Moeller believes that Tebow could be ready to be in the major leagues, potentially as early as this year. His assumption, he says is that "[Tebow] starts at Double-A" this season.

After spending the fall with the New York Mets team in the Arizona Fall League, Moeller has seen Tebow's growth and development. Having played in over 500 major league games, Moeller likes what he sees from Tebow and he sometimes marvels that a player who has not swung a bat in a competitive setting since high school has this much potential.

"Drastically better. He's learning himself, he's learning what he likes about his swing, he's learning what works with his swing. He's figuring himself out," Moeller told Metro in a phone interview. "I gave him a framework and he's blending it into his own. He's figuring himself out. He's learning how to hit the ball in the air. He already knew how to drive the ball to all fields. He's working at it so much and figuring out things so quickly and asking lots and lots of questions. It's drastically better than it was at the end of the fall league. It's getting smoother and less violent; it doesn't look like he's trying to rip things apart. It's a smoother swing; it doesn't look like it's just force. It's a true swing. It is one of those that after people see him, they are shocked."

It has been quite a learning curve for Tebow in the fall league, who last played baseball his junior year of high school. Football was always his love and passion, and with programs such as Alabama, USC and Florida all recruiting him for football, he chose to be a quarterback. Now, after years away from the diamond, he's eyeing a potential big league debut. The moment, of course, won't be too big for Tebow if he eventually takes the field for the Mets.

While Tebow hit just .194 in the fall league, Moeller is encouraged by the development of Tebow, who he continues to train out of his Scottsdale Batting Cages facility. There are times Moeller has literally had to take the baseball bat out of Tebow's hand "because he's doing too much."

His work ethic remains beyond reproach.

"He can make adjustments faster than anyone I've ever seen," Moeller said. "I showed him an adjustment to make with his legs the very first day, he was able to do it; it took me four years to be able do that. And he just did it because of his body awareness, he's a better athlete."

Tim Tebow in Chad Moeller's batting cages. COURTESY PHOTO

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Why Viagra Is Failing Men

Soaring demand expected for new scientific advance made just for older men. Works on both men's physical ability and their desire in bed.

By Harlan S. Waxman
Health News Syndicate

New York – If you're like the rest of us guys over 50; you probably already know the truth… Prescription ED pills don't work! Simply getting an erection doesn't fix the problem" says Dr. Bassam Damaj, chief scientific officer at the world famous Innovus Pharma Laboratories.

As we get older, we need more help in bed. Not only does our desire fade; but erections can be soft or feeble, one of the main complaints with prescription pills. Besides, they're expensive… costing as much as $50.00 each

Plus, it does nothing to stimulate your brain to want sex. "I don't care what you take, if you aren't interested in sex, you can't get or keep an erection. It's physiologically impossible," said Dr. Damaj.

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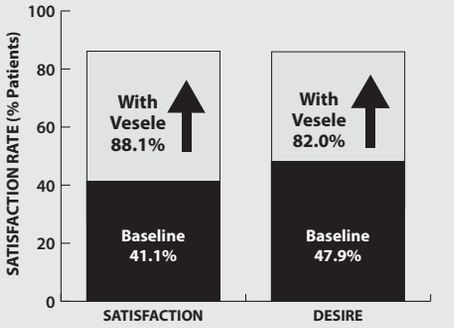

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The study asked men, 45 to 65 years old to take the main ingredient in Vesele® once a day. Then they were instructed not to change the way they eat or exercise but to take Vesele® twice a day. **What happened next was remarkable.** Virtually every man in the study who took Vesele® twice a day reported a huge difference in their desire for sex. In layman's terms, they were horny again. They also experienced harder erections that lasted for almost 20 minutes. The placebo controlled group (who received sugar pills) mostly saw no difference.

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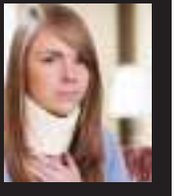

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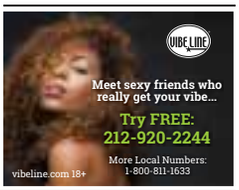

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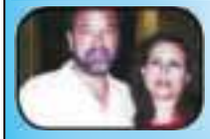

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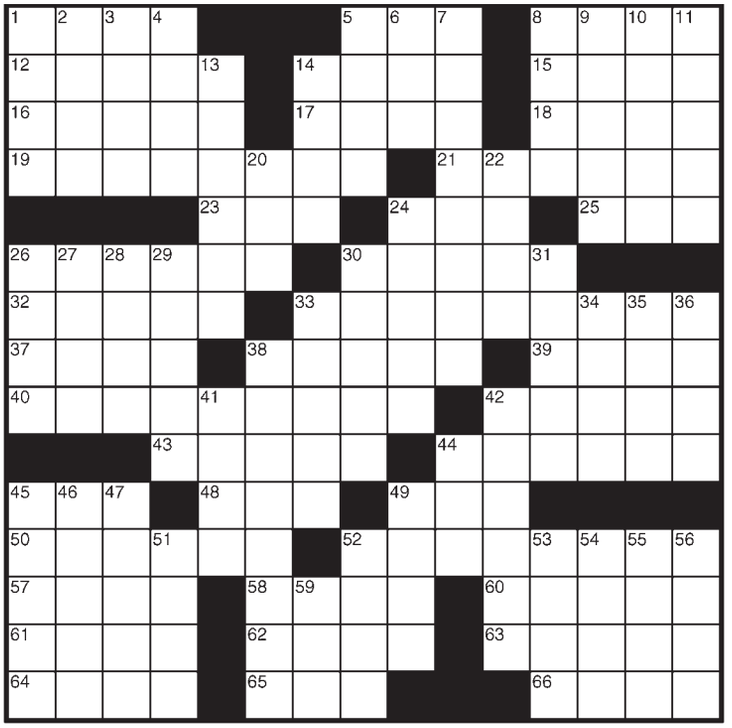

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easy

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hard

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metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Working hard and building strong relationships with your peers will promote popularity and a stellar reputation. Use your talent to engage in something you enjoy.

Taurus Business deals and prospects will highlight your day. Networking or getting more involved in groups that interest you will be important when it comes to progress.

Gemini Your best financial gains will come through hard work, finding solutions to existing problems and exploring new ways to press forward with your responsibilities.

Cancer You may not be eager to travel, but your curiosity will get the better of you. Indulge in community and cultural events to become aware of new possibilities.

Leo Check out your career options. An opportunity will tempt you to make a move. Revamp your résumé, update your skills and set sail for a chance to live your dream.

Virgo Keep close tabs on your investments, personal belongings and responsibilities if you want to avoid criticism and an unnecessary loss. Protect against injury.

Libra Don't reveal too much about what you are up to. Use your intelligence and ability to persuade others to trust you in order to avoid interference.

Scorpio Focus on creativity and your desire to expand an interest. Don't invest too much cash until you are sure you want to follow through with your plans.

Sagittarius Don't divulge personal secrets to your peers. Someone will take advantage of you emotionally or try to manipulate you into doing something you shouldn't.

Capricorn Travel and educational pursuits are highlighted. The rewards you receive due to the research and information you gather will lead to praise.

Aquarius Change will bring positive results. Buckle down and get things done that will give you the freedom you need to live your dream. Make romance a priority.

Pisces Get past emotional confusion by asking pertinent questions, gathering the facts and being honest regarding your opinions and motives. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

S	I	P		K	O	A	L	A			M	A	A	M
A	N	A		A	R	D	O	R		W	I	N	C	E
B	A	C	K	T	R	A	C	K		I	N	T	E	L
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